CLAIMS

1. A securing device for securing items to an elongate element said securing device comprising first and second parts positionable in co-operating engagement with each other and adjacent to an elongate element said parts when in engagement with each other being movable relative to each other in a longitudinal direction of said element, said first and second parts being shaped so that relative movement of said parts in said longitudinal direction generates lateral relative movement of said parts towards each other so that said elongate member is gripped between said parts.

2. A securing device according to claim 1 wherein said first and second parts in combination when co-operatingly engaged with each other surround said elongate element.

3. A securing device according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said first part has an inclined surface that in co-operating engagement between said first and second parts contacts said second part and that is inclined relative to said longitudinal direction so that that during said relative movement of said parts in said longitudinal direction said first and second parts are drawn together whereby to grip said elongate member.

4. A securing device according to claim 3 wherein said inclined surface of said first part contacts an inclined surface of said second part when said first and second parts are in co-operating engagement and wherein during said relative longitudinal movement of said parts said inclined surfaces slide on each other.

5. A securing device according to claim 3 or 4 wherein said inclined surface of said first part is a surface of a wedge formation on said first part.

6. A securing device according to claim 5 wherein said wedge formation is received in a recess of said second part when said first and second parts are in cooperating engagement.

7. A securing device according to claim 5 or 6 wherein said wedge formation is one of two such wedge formations in said securing device.

8. A securing device according to any one of claims 5 to 7 wherein the or at least one said wedge formation in use of the securing device projects outwardly of said elongate element.

9. A securing device according to any one of claims 3 to 8 wherein said inclined surface of said first part is one of two such inclined surfaces of said first part that in co-operating engagement of said first and second parts contact the second part.

10. A securing device according to any one of claims 3 to 8 wherein said second part has an inclined surface that in co-operating engagement between said first and second parts contacts said first part.

11. A securing device according to claim 9 or 10 wherein when said securing device is in use to grip an elongate element of circular cross-section said two inclined surfaces are at least approximately diametrically opposed to each other.

12. A securing device according to any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein at least one of the first and second parts has a shaped surface that when said securing device is in use to grip said elongate element conformingly abuts an external surface of the elongate element.

13. A securing device according to claim 12 wherein the or at least one shaped surface is part-cylindrical in shape so that said securing device is adapted in use to conformably abut an elongate element of substantially circular cross-section.

14. A securing means for securing an item to an elongate element comprising a securing device according to any one of claims 1 to 13 and means for securing said item to said securing device.

15. A cable support for use on scaffold tubes and other elongate elements comprising a securing device according to any one of claims 1 to 13 and comprising cable support means on at least one of said first and second parts for supporting cables.

16. A cable support according to claim 15 having on at least one of said first and second parts a plurality of fingers shaped and positioned to retain cables between adjacent fingers.

17. A cable support according to claim 16 wherein the fingers are spaced apart in the longitudinal direction.

18. A cable support according to claim 16 or 17 wherein the said fingers on a said part are integrally formed with said part.

19. A connector for connecting a plurality of components of which at least one component is elongate, the connector comprising firstly a securing device according to any one of claims 1 to 13 for securing to said elongate component and secondly holding means secured to or comprised in said first or second part of the securing device and adapted to hold another of said components.

21. A method for securing an item to an elongate element comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a securing device according to any one of claims 1 to 13;

(b) postioning said first and second parts adjacent to said elongate element and in engagement with each other;

(c) moving said first and second parts relative to each other in a longitudinal direction of said element until said element is gripped between said first and second parts; and

(d) securing said item to said securing device.

22. A method for temporarily supporting cables on an elongate element comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a cable support according to any one of claims 15 to 18;

(b) postioning said first and second parts adjacent to said elongate element and in engagement with each other;

(c) moving said first and second parts relative to each other in a longitudinal direction of said element until said element is gripped between said first and second parts; and

(d) supporting cables by the cable support means comprised in said cable support.